

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 131958Z MAR 75 ZFF6
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5903
AMCONSUL LUANDA
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 947

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS PFOR OTRA CA MZ
SUBJ CANADIAN MISSION TO VISIT PORTUGUESE AFRICA

REF LOURENCO MARQUES 118

1. GOC EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIALS DEALING WITH AFRICAN AFFAIRS HAVE INFORMED US THAT CANADA IS SENDING MISSION TO ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE TO STUDY AND DISCUSS POST-INDEPENDENCE RELATIONS AND PROSPECTS FOR CANADIAN AID. TWO-MAN MISSION SCHEDULED SPEND TEN DAYS IN EACH TERRITORY STARTING IN EARLY MAY, PROBABLY GOING FIRST TO MOZAMBIQUE TO PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN VISIT AND PREPARATIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE.

2. MISSION WILL BE HEADED BY MICHEL GAUVIN, CURRENTLY AMBASSADOR TO GREECE, ONE OF CANADA'S STAR DIPLOMATS FREQUENTLY USED FOR TROUBLE-SHOOTING ROLES (MOST RECENTLY ON VIETNAM TRUCE SUPERVISORY COMMISSION, BUT
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INCLUDING ALSO SPECIAL MISSIONS TO CONGO DURING 1964

STANLEYVILLE CRISIS AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN 1965).
HE HAS SERVED TWICE IN LISBON (1953-5, 1969-70 AS
AMBASSADOR), AND HIS AFRICAN ASSIGNMENTS HAVE INCLUDED
LEOPOLDVILLE AND ADDIS ABABA (AS AMBASSADOR TO
ETHIOPIA, MALAGASY REPUBLIC AND SOMALIA). OTHER
MISSION MEMBER WILL BE JOHN LICHARSON, DESK OFFICER FOR
PORTUGUESE AFRICA, WHO SERVED IN DAR-ES-SALAAM 1971-3.

3. EXTAFF AND CIDA (CANADIAN AID AGENCY) HAVE UNDER
ACTIVE STUDY PROPOSAL RECEIVED VIA ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT
KAUNDA FOR EMERGENCY SUPPLY OF WHEAT TO MOZAMBIQUE.
WHILE AMOUNTS NOT SPECIFIED, EXTAFF OFFICIALS GAVE
IMPRESSION EMERGENCY WHEAT AID WOULD BE APPROVED SOON
(MAJOR COMPLICATION AT PRESENT BEING PORT WORKERS STRIKE
IN VANCOUVER). GOC SEEMS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO PROVIDE
ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AID TO MOZAMBIQUE. THEIR PRESENT
UNDERSTANDING IS THAT ANGOLA WILL NOT REQUIRE AID.

4. GOC ANTICIPATES NO PROBLEM MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR
VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE THROUGH FRELIMO HQ IN DAR ES SALAAM.
THEY ARE UNCERTAIN HOW TO PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR
ANGOLA VISIT SINCE THEIR NEAREST DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO
LUANDA IS THEIR SMALL EMBASSY IN KINSHASA WHICH WOULD
BE HARD-PRESSED TO RELEASE OFFICER TO MAKE PRELIMINARY
CONTACTS IN LUANDA. WHILE THEY UNDERSTAND
THERE IS AN "ANGOLA OFFICE" IN NEW YORK, THEY
SUSPECT IT MAY BE MPLA AND WOULD NOT WANT TO START
OFF ON THE WRONG FOOT BY DEALING WITH ONE ANGOLAN
PARTY AT RISK OF ANTAGONIZING OTHER TWO PARTIES AND
PORTUGUESE. THEY WOULD WELCOME ANY ADVICE DEPT. OR
AMCONSUL LUANDA MIGHT CARE TO ADVANCE ON THIS MATTER.
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